

REMARKS

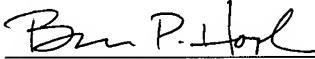
The present application is a continuation of parent U.S. Application Serial No. 09/855,982, having been allowed on August 17, 2003, the issue fee paid on October 10, 2003 (due October 17, 2003).

The specification has been amended to include statements related to the parent application.

Claim 1 is now pending. Claims 2-38 were cancelled. Claim 1 is independent. Consideration of the subject application is respectfully requested. Applicants will prepare a subsequent Supplemental Preliminary Amendment in due course. Should the assigned Examiner pick up the present application for examination on the merits prior to receiving the Supplemental Preliminary Amendment, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner contact the below named attorney to expedite the filing of such.

Please charge any additional fees that may be due, or credit any overpayment of same, to Deposit Account No. 50-0311 (Reference No. 21535-007 CON), Customer No. 35437.

Respectfully submitted,



Brian P. Hopkins, Reg. No. 42,669
Attorneys for Applicant
MINTZ, LEVIN, COHN, FERRIS,
GLOVSKY AND POPEO, P.C.
The Chrysler Center
666 Third Avenue, 24th Floor
New York, New York 10017
Tel: (212) 935-3000
Fax: (212) 983-3115